

GARY L. SHUCK

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REMARKS

Claim 1 is amended herein to correct a typographical error. No new matter is being introduced. A marked version of the amended claim is submitted herewith as Appendix A.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for early examination, and action toward that end is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite the examination of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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APPENDIX A
MARKED VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIM

1. A method of at least partially filling at least one microfluidic channel of a microfluidic device with a gas or fluid, the method comprising:

applying a vacuum to the at least one microfluidic channel of the microfluidic device; and

at least partially filling the at least one [**mircrofluidic**] microfluidic channel with at least one of a gas or fluid while the at least one microfluidic channel remains under vacuum.